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Marginal Column

By ZE'EV LAQUEUR

IT appears likely that M. Mendes-France will get his vote of confidence tomorrow. In all probability it will be a narrow one, and the French Prime Minister has already said that a narrow win will be tantamount to a defeat—which is not necessarily true. Parliamentary resolutions, however narrowly adopted, have a very considerable staying power. When some 80 years ago, the question arose in the Paris National Assembly whether France should become a republic or not, the "Wallon amendment" in favour of the republic was carried by exactly one vote out of 708. Only history professors remember it today.

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THAT the majority will probably be narrow has something to do with the policy of the M.R.P. and a French parliamentary custom called *dosage*. According to this, a party, the M.R.P. in the given case, makes up its mind that it wishes to show the country and the whole world how weak is the Government, and how easily it could be defeated—but then refrains from defeating it at the last moment. This can easily be engineered by a division of labour among the members of the fraction — some voting in favour, others against and the rest abstaining, always with an eye to the overall result. And as the leaders of the parliamentary faction always have at their disposal a number of proxy votes, at the decisive moment they can cast them one way or another to bring about the result desired. It happened in this manner last week during the first vote on the Indo-China budget, when the Government was first defeated and later received a majority in the confidence motion.

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BUT as passions have been running high, and as so much personal enmity is involved, it cannot be taken for granted that the M.R.P. and the right-wing Independents will not prefer to bring down the hated Mendes-France Government now instead of waiting for another opportunity. Domestic factors are at least as important in the present vote, and probably more so, than considerations of foreign policy. There is much to be said against a new Western German army, and the London and Paris pacts, according to many observers, offer even less safeguards than the European Defence Community. But the Belgians and Dutch, for instance, have even more reason to be afraid of a re-militarized Germany, yet if we recall that they voted almost unanimously in favour of the treaties, while all France is divided, then it would appear that French opposition has less to do with the specific issue of relations with Germany than is commonly believed, and more with the general inability to reach agreement on any important issue which has bedevilled French politics for too many years.

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IF the Mendes-France Government should be defeated in the impending motion of confidence, no very spectacular and dramatic developments are to be expected immediately. The equilibrium between West and East will not be greatly affected, as the 12 German divisions after all are of far less strategic and political importance than it believed by some of the more naive politicians in the United States. And as Washington and London are intent on going ahead with German remilitarization anyway, there is little that M. Mendes-France's heirs will be able to do. If there should be no majority for the London and Paris agreements, then there will be no majority for making France an Eastern satellite. The only sure result would be the deepening of the existing internal divisions.

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THE Gaullists cannot hope to get a parliamentary majority for one of their political friends as Prime Minister, and if they could, their foreign political conception of "La France seule" would shipwreck them, after a few weeks, for the simple reason that there is no room for it in the 20th century. The only alternative to Mendes-France is a Pinay-Bidault-René Mayer government. After a few weeks of crisis it might obtain the necessary majority but it would also probably mean a relapse into immobility. Such a government would be doomed to inactivity in both domestic and foreign affairs. France would again become an object of international politics, and the present experiment of restoring to France some of her initiative and independence would appear, in retrospect, a mere episode, outside the main stream of events of the Fourth Republic. Whatever the outcome, tomorrow's vote will affect the future of France as a European power more than it will that of the Western Alliance.

Jerusalem, December 26.

Prospects for 1955

January: pains; February pains; pains for March... this is what sufferers of rheumatism expect during 1955.

This persistent and much cursed illness, when it attacks, does not let go of the patient, especially during winter months. Why continue suffering? Go in the traces of thousands of sick people who tried "Togal" and were quickly relieved from their pains and finally cured. "Togal" is a safe remedy also in cases of Influenza, Colds, Sciatica, Headaches and others. "Togal" is a Swiss product recognized by over 7,600 doctors for its rapid action.

(Adv.)

Sudan Premier Gets 2 Posts In Reshuffle

KHARTOUM, Saturday (Reuter).—Premier Ismail el Azhari reshuffled his Cabinet tonight following the dismissal of the three "rebel" Ministers two days ago, and himself took charge of the Defence and Interior portfolios.

The rest of his Cabinet is:

Finance, Hammad Tewfik; Communications, Mubarrak Zarrouk; Justice, Mudathir el Busy; Mineral Wealth, Imrahim el Mahallawy; Stores, Deng Teng; Mechanical Transport, Dak Del; Agriculture and Irrigation, Khader Hammad; Education, Abdul Rahman; Social Affairs, Yehia el Fadly; Public Works, Nur el Din; Local Governments, Mohammed Ahmed el Marady; Animal Husbandry, Husbakbru Ali.

Many organizations have cabled the Prime Minister deploring his action and declaring their support for the three dismissed Cabinet members.

The three "rebel" Ministers are reported planning either a new pro-independence Party or front embodying existing groups opposed to Sudan's union with Egypt.

The former Ministers are Mirghani Hamza, Agriculture and Irrigation (now replaced), Senator Ahmed Gell, Minister of State, Senator Khalafalla Khalid, Defence. Their dismissal had been described in the press here as a victory for Egypt.

They will not make a final decision until Ali el Mirghani, religious leader of the Khatmia sect, returns from Egypt next week. The Ministers have the support of Khatmia followers. If Mirghani openly backs them, it is said here, the Government will fall.

Khalid said yesterday that unless the pro-unionist press stopped attacking the three of them, "I will have no alternative but to disclose the National Unionist Party's financial secretes." He was the Party treasurer.

Nasser Wants Closer Links With Britain

CAIRO, Saturday (Reuter). — The Premier, Colonel Gamal Abdul Nasser, said yesterday that his country was looking forward to closer Anglo-Egyptian cooperation, especially in the economic field.

He sent Egypt's Christmas and New Year greetings to all peace-loving countries, hoping that "cooperation with the work of evolution and development for the welfare of all nations is their aim, as it is ours, for 1955."

Formosa Forces Hit Island Near Coast

TAIPEH, Saturday (Reuter). — Nationalist ships and planes bombarded Chinese positions on Chihkuoshan Island, 12 kms. from the Nationalist stronghold of Tachen today.

A Nationalist Defence Ministry communique reported, "Our forces opened up a furious pounding. Bombs and broadsides hit the targets mercilessly." It was the first Nationalist air and sea attack since September. Nationalist sources said the attack lasted an hour. It was aimed at knocking out guns and fortifications.

Nationalist seaborne guerrillas killed 70 Chinese and captured two others in two commando raids yesterday, a military spokesman said yesterday. They raided the China mainland at Weitou, 16 kms. northeast of the Nationalist-held Quemoy Island, and also landed on Chihkuoshan Island.

55 AUSTRIAN POW'S TO BE RELEASED

VIENNA, Saturday (Reuter). — The Soviet High Commissioner in Austria today informed the Interior Ministry that 55 Austrians interned or held as prisoners of war in Russia were to be released. They included one woman, and would arrive here next Tuesday.

Pope's Hopes For World Peace

VATICAN CITY, Saturday (Reuter).—Pope Pius XII, in his Christmas message to the world today, expressed the hope that people would know "how to live out their lives in that atmosphere of joy and with those feelings of goodness and peace which Christmas pours forth on all sides".

In Britain today, Queen Elizabeth broadcast a special Christmas tribute to the Commonwealth and Empire. Her last Christmas broadcast was made in New Zealand while on a tour of the Commonwealth.

In Amman, Acting Premier Huza'i Majali in his Christmas message expressed the hope that the Christian world would realize the urgent need "for the restoration of the robbed rights in the Holy Land." The British-controlled NEABS said that one of the reasons for the absence of peace in the Holy Land was the fact that Arab leaders used the plight of the refugees as a political weapon, fearing that resettlement in Iraq and Syria would cause them to lose "a political card."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, said that if Communism prevailed "it would be because the free world was not good enough to outlive it in faith, in reverence for life and responsibility."

("3,000 Pilgrims," — P. 3, Col. 2)

European Storm Takes Toll of 125 Lives

AMSTERDAM, Saturday. — A tragic Christmas storm, the worst in this winter's series of gales which have taken a heavy toll of life, late yesterday blew itself out over Western Europe and its seas today, leaving 125 dead, hundreds injured, and 24 ships wrecked or damaged.

Snowfall followed days of howling gales and violent rains. The winds battered the Continent and threatened to overwhelm the sea defences of Britain and Holland, but suddenly abated yesterday.

Five kilometres south-east of Rotterdam three dykes collapsed to drive 1,700 persons inland before the raging flood waters. Water rose to a metre as North Sea tides threatened other points in Holland and Belgium where it was reported that 39 persons had died. Nineteen crewmen of the missing Belgian steamer, Henri Deweert, were given up as dead, and 20 sailors drowned when a lifeboat of the Danish ship Gerda Toft capsized.

At points near Nieuw Vossemeer and Fijnaart in Holland the weakened dykes held but rescue workers evacuated hundreds of persons as a safety measure. In downtown Rotterdam, the Maas River poured over its banks and rolled into the southern part of the city.

There were avalanches in Switzerland where five persons were buried in Flonnay. In Germany, more than 30 were killed. There were numerous accidents on roads crowded with Christmas traffic.

In Britain, rivers overflowed their banks and raced through houses in East Anglia.

(UP, Reuter)

28 Killed In Plane Disaster

PRESTWICK, Scotland, Saturday (Reuter). — A New York-bound B.O.A.C. airliner carrying 36 persons, overturned today while landing, exploded and burst into flames, killing 28.

The Stratocruiser had flown from London. Of the 11 crew members, seven survived, while only one out of 25 passengers was among those left living. Sir Miles Thomas, B.O.A.C.'s Chairman, flew from London this afternoon to study reports on the disaster. Airline executives had arrived earlier to start investigations.

Eye-witnesses described the scene after the terrific explosion as "an inferno with flames leaping 40 feet high." Some of the victims moaning in pain were trapped inside the wreckage till death overtook them. One fireman braved terrific heat and exploding petrol tanks to plunge into the flames and carry out the air hostess but she died soon after.

A pathetic heap of children's Christmas toys piled up on the grass as rescue crews brought the bodies of the victims from the charred wreckage. A mother and child were found dead in one of the seats. The child's arms were clasped tightly round her mother's neck.

Most of the dead were Scots returning home for Christmas. Friends and relatives waiting to meet them endured the horror of seeing the airliner heel over and then burst into flames as it touched down.

Hammarskjold Leaves N.Y. Next Week

NEW YORK, Saturday (Reuter). — Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, the U.N. Secretary-General, who is soon to fly to Peking for talks on release of the imprisoned American airmen and other Korean war prisoners, is spending the Christmas holidays in New York making final preparations for his journey.

The Secretary-General will leave New York by air next week, probably on December 30, by way of London and New Delhi. The exact date of his departure has not yet been announced, nor have the names of the staff who will accompany him.

No Moslem Congress For Old City

The Jordan Government will not allow the meeting of the All-Moslem Congress in the Old City next month because "circumstances are unsuitable," according to the Old City daily, "A-Diffa," yesterday.

Major Anwar Sa'adat, a member of the Egyptian Cabinet and Secretary-General of the Congress, has approached the Government with a request to permit the conference to be held in Old Jerusalem. Some Moslem countries, including Iran Turkey and Pakistan, had hinted that they opposed the Old City as the venue of the convention.

It is understood that the Jordan Government fears possible disorders by "subversive elements" such as Moslem Brotherhood members and leftists, should the Moslem convention be held in the Old City.

H-BOMB VICTIMS LEAVE HOSPITAL

TOKYO, Saturday (Reuter). — Five fishermen injured by hydrogen bomb "death ash" during U.S. tests in the Pacific in March, left hospital today for a holiday with their families. The last 10 survivors are expected to be allowed out on January 1. All were members of the crew of the fishing trawler, Fukuryu Maru.

Soviet Bloc Areas Observe Christmas

LONDON, Saturday (Reuter). — The word Christmas — in disuse for many years in Communist countries — has been revived this year, according to messages from Russia, East Europe and China.

The word was being used freely yesterday (Christmas Eve) in broadcasts from East European countries, and a despatch from Peking told of celebrations and carol singing in the streets.

The official Soviet news agency TASS published a collection of addresses by the Patriarch of all Russia — pointing out that it contains his address for last Christmas also.

In the Chinese capital Protestants and Catholics celebrated Christmas Eve with peals of bells from the cathedrals, churches and chapels in the capital, and groups sang Christmas carols from house to house in many streets.

LEBANON'S FINANCES SAID IMPROVED

The Lebanese President, Camille Chamoun, stated in Beirut on Friday that his country's financial condition has considerably improved, according to NEABS yesterday.

Where there was once a usual annual deficit of about LL.16m., this year there was a surplus of LL.30m., he declared.

Pakistan Thinks India Ready for Talks

KARACHI, Saturday (UP). — Prime Minister Mohammed Ali stated today there are indications that the U.S.-Pakistan military aid agreement no longer bars any India-Pakistan negotiations for settlement of their disputes.

Mr. Ali said that Prime Minister Jawarhalal Nehru recently stated in a letter that "there is no point in continuing any correspondence in the context of the U.S.-Pakistan military aid agreement." Mr. Ali referred to a letter in which Mr. Nehru agreed to reopen negotiations between India and Pakistan on the question of Kashmir and on other disputes. These negotiations were first started on Aug. 1, 1953, but stalled within two months when India made bitter objections to Pakistan being given American military aid. In the letter Mr. Nehru agreed to resume negotiations but added that he would be unable to meet personally with Mr. Ali for two months or more, due to previous engagements. He suggested that lower level talks be resumed.

'Better Atmosphere'

Mr. Ali said today he interprets this Nehru letter to mean that U.S. military aid to Pakistan "probably no longer will be a bar to negotiations. This development has resulted in a better atmosphere than has existed for many months," he added, referring to the prospect of resumption.

In a Christmas Day meeting with newsmen at his home just a few hours before his departure by plane for Djakarta to attend the Colombo conference, Mr. Ali denied any official unhappiness with the rate of delivery of American military aid.

"These charges are made by people who do not know what is happening," he said. "I am satisfied with the rate of delivery."

The conference will establish an agenda for the larger conference of Asian and American nations to be held early in 1955.

Mr. Ali was asked if he would support the Arab States' position against Israel participation.

"We have not recognized Israel and would object to Israel attending the conference," he said bluntly.

Asia Parley to Remove Tension, Nehru Says

SANTINIKETAN, West Bengal, Saturday (Reuter). — Premier Nehru said yesterday that the purpose of the Afro-Asian conference in Djakarta next week was to remove tension and help develop the Asian nations.

The conference, to be attended by the five Colombo powers, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma and Indonesia, was not opposed to any country or group, Mr. Nehru stated.

"There is no European or Asian peace now. There is either world peace or world war. Such a war might be touched off in any part of the world. The moment this happens the whole world would be more or less involved."

Mr. Nehru said that the danger points in Asia now were Indo-China, Formosa and the islands off the coast of China. The Korean question was also still undecided. Mr. Nehru left here today for Calcutta on his way to Djakarta.

Cairo Spy Court Visits Scenes Of 'Zionist' Violence

ALEXANDRIA, Saturday (UP). — The military court trying the alleged Zionist spy ring made on-the-spot examinations this morning of the places where the accused are charged with having carried out dynamiting activities. They included the U.S. Information Centre and the General Post Office.

The court also examined the chemical laboratory which defendant Philip Natanson allegedly maintained in his villa. The court examined photographic equipment, eyeglass cases said to have been used in the dynamiting operations, as well as Natanson's trousers which had been partially burned, allegedly following the attempted dynamiting of the Rio cinema.



Natanson

The court then moved to the Post Office building. Natanson showed the court how he had slipped the explosive-filled case into the airmail letter box. Victor Levi also demonstrated placing another case in the box for printed matter, but Robert Dassan said he had only accompanied Levi and had not carried out any dynamiting acts himself.

Later, the court went to Natanson's villa to see the secret laboratory where the defendant said that he had combined chemical ingredients into explosives. Natanson added that Levi and Dassan had cooperated with him in this operation. Natanson kissed his mother and sister, who were in the house. His dog yelped from the dining room; Natanson requested to see it, and the court president consented.

The court moved to the U.S. Information Centre. Although it was closed for Christmas, it was opened specially for the examination. Dassan said, "I and Samuel Azar sat in the library reading books, and then got up and pretended to look for other books. We placed explosive cases between books. There were half-a-dozen persons in the room at the time." One of the two cases exploded shortly afterwards.

The court is to continue on-the-spot examinations tomorrow and will leave for Cairo during the night, resuming its sessions in the capital on Monday.

The Public Committee for the Defence of the Accused in the Cairo Trial will hold its second meeting in Jerusalem at 4 p.m. tomorrow.

Bat Galim Release Awaits U.N. Vote

CAIRO, Saturday (UP). — The Government is awaiting a ruling by the U.N. Security Council, scheduled to meet on January 4, before it makes any move regarding the release of the Israel ship, the Bat Galim, an official source reported today.

Regarding the release of the crew of the ship on January 1, the source stated that the Israelis would be handed over to the Israel-Egyptian Mixed Armistice Commission which will then release them to the Israel authorities.

He said that the ship's cargo would also be handed back to Israel and that the price of the meat shipment which had been sold before it decayed, would be transferred.

Jordan Infiltrators At Several Points

An Israel unit patrolling the armistice lines of Jordan in the area of the Little Triangle last Friday spotted a group of infiltrators who had entered Israel territory, the Army spokesman announced. When asked to halt, the infiltrators opened fire on the patrol from across the armistice lines. No one was hurt.

Two marauders, who approached Mishmar Ayalon, a border village near Lydda, on Thursday night, were driven off by watchmen, the Police report. The two men fled into Jordan-held territory.

Two infiltrators were captured by police in the Jerusalem area yesterday.

On Friday, Mr. Eliahu Vanunu complained to the police that Legionnaires had thrown stones at him while he was standing at the foot of Rehov Musrara. He was not hit.

A truck carrying six cows believed to have been smuggled into the country was stopped by the Police near Falujja on Thursday. The driver and a second occupant were arrested.

A sack containing 264 cigarette lighters and 243 silk kerchiefs which the police believe was hidden or dropped by smugglers, was found by a member of a Negev moshav yesterday. The lighters were made in Austria.

EGYPT ALLEGES RAID ON BEDUIN CAMP

Egypt has asked the Israel-Egyptian Mixed Armistice Commission to hold an emergency meeting to consider an incident which allegedly took place near Rafah on Friday, ANA reports from Cairo.

According to the despatch, a unit of four Israel armoured cars had penetrated three kilometres into Egyptian territory, had attacked a Beduin encampment and had stolen a flock of sheep. U.N. Observers visited the scene yesterday.

Jordan meanwhile has lodged two demands for emergency meetings with the Israel-Jordan MAC, according to NEABS. The report said that an Israel patrol had entered Jordan territory near the village of Fakua, in the neighbourhood of Beth Alpha, and had exchanged fire with National Guards.

In another incident, a villager at Kafr Sur in the Tulkarem district allegedly was gravely injured by shots from an Israel patrol which had crossed into Jordan territory.

French Reject Bonn Army; Get U.K., U.S. Warning

Voted Down By 21 Votes

PARIS, Saturday (Reuter). — The French Assembly yesterday rejected by 280 votes to 259 the ratification of the Paris agreement to rearm West Germany.

After the Assembly had rejected this proposal for West German rearmament and admission to the Western Union group of powers, the Prime Minister, M. Pierre Mendes France, declared that he would re-submit the motion on a vote of confidence.

He told a crowded Assembly, "You have just given a vote which is bad for the country. I think the Assembly should go straight on with its work on the Paris agreements in order to prevent a dangerous interpretation abroad of today's vote."

The Premier then announced that he was making all the Paris agreements, including the one that had been rejected — that for rearming Germany and admitting her into the Western European Union — a matter of confidence on Monday next.

The Government was hoping that in this way and after a week-end of reflection, it would be able to save the situation and get the Paris agreements ratified, although no doubt only by a very narrow majority.

Sovereignty Voted

Later, the Chamber, by 372 votes to 134, approved ratification of Article 1 of the Protocol for the restoration of German sovereignty.

After consultation with party leaders, the Premier changed his mind about making this protocol a confidence vote on Monday when it was indicated to him that the Assembly was favourable to restoration of German sovereignty although it expressed itself as hostile to German rearmament.

Immediately afterwards, the Assembly voted Article 2 of the Protocol which deals with the status of Allied troops stationed in Germany.

At the same time, the Assembly voted by a show of hands in favour of a resolution instructing the Government to exchange the instruments of ratification of the Paris agreements only on the same date as the instruments of ratification of the Franco-German agreement on the Saar become available. In this way the Assembly made it clear that approval of ratification of the Paris agreements was definitely subject to ratification of the Saar agreements having been obtained first.

"Confidence in Future"

Later in the evening, M. Mendes-France sent a Christmas message of "confidence in the future" to the people of France, but made no mention of the National Assembly's vote against German rearmament yesterday. He said that he would not discuss politics in his radio speech.

"The (Indo-China) war has ended" he declared. "For the first time in 20 years, cannons no longer sound in any part of the world..."

M. Mendes-France spoke feelingly of the youth of France. "It is in thinking of them that I would like to address to all who hear me a message of confidence in our future," he said. "I hereby express the wish that France, more than ever in the past, will be a happy country," the Premier continued.

"Also, I wish that this Christmas should not be merely an occasion for effusiveness without any follow-up. I would like it to mark our agreement to act all together in such a way that we will find a world in which there will no longer be men who are cold, who are afraid — a world in which all can live in peace... I hope that this is not a Christmas fairy tale," he concluded.

CONFIDENCE VOTE TOMORROW

Great Britain and the United States swiftly expressed their concern and dissatisfaction with the French Assembly's rejection on Friday of West German rearmament. The Foreign Office stated immediately after the vote that the rejection of the Paris agreements would not mean that German rearmament would not take place.

"The issue is not whether the German Federal Republic will rearm, but how. The United Kingdom commitment offered to the London Conference to maintain British forces on the Continent of Europe, depends on the ratification of the Paris agreements by all parties concerned," the statement declared.

"It is clear that what is at stake is the unity of the Western allies."

A statement issued on behalf of President Eisenhower said that the United States does not believe that the French Assembly vote represented France's final decision. Mr. James Haggerty, the White House press secretary, said he had been authorized by the President (who is vacationing in Georgia) to state that "the President regards the adverse vote... as one of the utmost seriousness."

In Washington, State Department officials endorsed Britain's warning to the French that their rejection of the Paris agreements would not prevent German rearmament. Questioned about the Foreign Office statement, officials said that the U.S. attitude was precisely the same as Britain's.

West German government officials welcomed the British statement and hoped that it would help the French Chamber to change its mind. They said that there would be no official comment because of a reluctance to influence French deputies while there was still hope of saving the agreement.

Soviet Bloc Approves

The Soviet bloc greeted the French vote with approval yesterday. The Russian trade union paper, "Trud," said that "American threats cannot force French patriots to abandon their noble fight against the Paris agreements." "Izvestia," the official Soviet paper, said that popular reaction against the Paris agreements was "exercising great influence on many bourgeois deputies of the French parliament."

"Pravda," the Russian Communist Party organ, charged the United States with putting pressure on France to ratify the agreements.

Moscow Radio broadcast on Friday that the Foreign Office statement represented "an insolent pressure upon the French."

In East Germany, the French Assembly's vote was received "with joy," the official news agency, ADN, said on Friday. Factories announced the news over their internal broadcast system, and people making their final Christmas purchases stopped to listen to street loudspeakers, it said.

Warsaw Radio reported yesterday that "people in the streets of Warsaw and other Polish cities talked about one thing only —the vote in the French Chamber." A talk before the news which had the French vote as its main item, ended with "Long live France, long live our French friends."

It will be recalled that at the London 9-power conference on West German rearmament in September Britain offered to keep 4½ divisions and a tactical air force on the Continent until the end of the century provided that the agreements reached were ratified by all.

This conference, and the subsequent Paris meeting of Foreign Ministers, decided to set up the new Western European Union—Britain, France, the Benelux countries, Italy and Western Germany. Under the Paris agreements, a rearmed West Germany is also to be admitted into the Atlantic Pact. *(Reuter)*

ESHKOL LEAVES U.S.

NEW YORK, Saturday (Reuter). — The Israel Finance Minister, Mr. Levi Eshkol, left yesterday by air for Paris where he will spend a day before returning to Israel tomorrow.

Mr. Eshkol was in the U.S. and Canada for 12 days addressing meetings in New York, Boston and Montreal, on behalf of the Israel Bond drive. He told reporters that subscriptions to the Bond Drive in 1955 would be higher than in 1954.

("30,000 Attend," — P. 3, Col. 3)

Fields Given Political Asylum in Hungary

VIENNA, Saturday (Reuter). — Budapest Radio said yesterday that Noel and Gerta Field, the Americans recently freed by Hungary, have asked for and have been granted political asylum in the country.

The Hungarian Government announced the release of Noel Field, a former State Department official, and his wife a month ago, five years after they had been arrested on espionage charges. It was announced that the charges had been dropped. Field, who is 50, was arrested in Prague in May, 1949.

Noel's brother, Herman, 44, disappeared in Warsaw three months later while seeking news of Noel. Herman was released by Poland in October after five years in prison.

Noel Field's adopted daughter, Mrs. Erica Wallach, German-born former London resident, who vanished while seeking news of her father in Berlin, is still missing. She had been reported by refugees to have been seen in a Russian "slave labour camp."

Four Former Beria Aides Executed

MOSCOW, Saturday (Reuter). —Four former Soviet security chiefs—an ex-Minister and his three lieutenants — have been shot, as "accomplices" of Lavrenti Beria, the Soviet press announced yesterday.

The announcement, made exactly a year after the execution of secret police chief Beria as a "traitor" was announced, also said that two other former security officials were sentenced to long terms of detention in a corrective labour camp.

The main figure at the trial, held in "open court session" in Leningrad from December 14 to 19, was Viktor Abakumov who succeeded Beria as Minister of National Security in 1946 on the former's promotion. The other three executed officials were A. G. Leonov, former Chief of the Investigation Department in charge of special cases, V.I. Komarov and M.T. Likhachev, former Assistant Chiefs of the Investigation Department, the Soviet news agency TASS announced. One official in the Ministry of State Security, Y.M. Broverman, was given 25 years in a detention camp; another, L.N. Chernov, 15 years.

All were alleged to have carried out Beria's orders directed against the Government and the Communist Party. Abakumov was believed to have been held culpable over the famous "doctors' plot."

SUEZ CANAL BLOCKED BY FOUNDERED SHIP

CANAL ZONE, Saturday (UP). — Shipping through the Suez Canal way was held up for almost 48 hours before workers were able to refloat today a Norwegian tanker that foundered in the Canal.

Some 24,000 tons of oil were pumped from the tanker "Britta" to another ship before the "Britta" was refloated and taken into Suez port for overhauling.

Djilas Wants 2 Yugoslav Parties

NEW YORK, Saturday (Reuter). — A dispatch from Belgrade to "The New York Times" today quoted the former Vice President of Yugoslavia, Mr. Milovan Djilas, in an appeal for a two-party system for his country.

The dispatch said by the newspaper to have been the first authorized interview with Mr. Djilas "after a year of reading and reflection," quoted him as saying that undemocratic forces in the present Yugoslav Government had halted a trend towards democracy.

It said Mr. Djilas predicted that democracy would prevail, and added that there were again signs of courage among the people to speak their minds.

"That is why I am giving this interview" he declared, "to encourage free discussion as an act of legality. I am taking a risk but one cannot go on without some risk... In 1950 and 1951, we had a new atmosphere of freedom developing. The police were no longer putting people in jail. But it is clear now that we have obtained only certain freedoms, as in art and literature, which can be distinguished from stupid Soviet "Socialistic realism" but not in basic ideological and political questions.

"I have felt that the political aspect of our system is in essence close to Stalinism. Another political formation should be constructed. This could be democratic and Socialist and not contemplate the return of the old, discredited Yugoslav parties that were never entirely democratic and compromised themselves during the war," Mr. Djilas said.

Johnston Due Here Next Month

SPOKANE, Saturday (Reuter). — Mr. Eric Johnston stated yesterday that he would proceed to the Middle East next month to attempt a settlement of the Arab-Israel deadlock over the waters of the Jordan valley.

He said that his previous meetings with the Arabs and Israelis in a sense had been exploratory, to "sound out various attitudes."

"This time I am going to call on leaders and engineers of each country," he told a reporter. "I will have specific proposals for each country. I will make every effort to effect an agreement this trip."

'Tapuz' On Her Way

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — The m.s. Tapuz, sister-ship to the Dagan, left Hamburg last Wednesday, the Shilumim Corporation announced yesterday.

Shilumim goods totalling 26,000 tons were brought in seven ships during December. The tonnage includes the 7,000 cargo of the Dagan.

Building iron in sizes most in demand is expected in January, the corporation stated.

SELLS BABY FOR £2

MAZAGAN, Morocco, Saturday (Reuter). — Khadijan Djillali, a Moroccan woman, sold her baby here for 2,000 francs (about £2), police reported.

SPEEDERS LOSE

Any speed which is too high for the conditions of road, weather, traffic and the driver's own ability is dangerous. Remember: *The time you may gain is not worth the lives you may sacrifice.*

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HADASSAH CLUB for OVERSEAS VISITORS

Social & Personal

The British Ambassador, Mr. John Nicholls, visited the Histadrut Executive in Tel Aviv on Friday and was received by the General Secretary, Mr. M. Namir. Mr. Namir also received the head of the Swedish Co-operative movement, Mr. Albin Johansen, and Mrs. Johansen, on Friday.

ARRIVALS: Mr. Izhar Harari, M.K., from the U.S., where he was delegate to the U.N.; Mr. Gideon Rafael, Foreign Ministry Adviser on Middle East Affairs, from a mission to Europe (by El Al); Mr. Gideon Strauss, New York representative of the Bank Leumi, for a visit; Mr. Benno Schotz, R.S.A., noted Scottish sculptor, with Mrs. Schotz, for the opening of exhibitions of his work in Jerusalem and Haifa next month (s.s. Artsa); A group of 67 immigrants from Cochin, India (by El Al).

DEPARTURES: Mr. Zalman Milstein, Manager of the Central Labour Exchange, for a three-month study tour of Switzerland, Britain and the Scandinavian countries; Mr. Amos Irron, Director of the Tourist Centre of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, on a business trip to Europe (by El Al).

Hanshil's Haifa branch is holding a Hanukka party for, and in aid of, polio-stricken children at the Maccabi Centre at 4 p.m. today.

BIRTHS

BIRD—To Erna (née Crothers) and David Bird, of Barclays Bank D.C.&O., on December 1, 1954, at Curepipe, Mauritius — a daughter, Suzanne Virginia.

ELLERN—to Ruth (née Rosenfeld), wife of Mr. S. J. Ellern, Ra'anana, on December 20, 1954 — a son.

JILOVSKY — To Esther, née Nessel, on Thursday, December 23, at Dr. Better's, Haifa — a daughter — Amirah.

UNVEILING OF TOMBSTONE

The unveiling of the tombstone over the grave of Nathan Zeidman, advocate, will take place at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 28, at the Givat Shaul Cemetery, Jerusalem.

Mme. Josephine Baker will entertain on December 31, at a party at the Ramat Aviv Hotel. For invitations please phone 22181-3, Tel Aviv. (Advt.)

NEW BEIT HAPOEL AT KIRYAT HAIM

HAIFA, Saturday.—Some 1,500 visitors were present at the opening of the new Beit Hapoel in Kiryat Haim today. The building cost IL.50,000, donated by various institutions, and includes a large gymnasium. It is situated near the new football pitch in West Kiryat Haim. A basketball pitch is to be added in the near future.

ON THE AIR

FIRST PROGRAMME
542, 340, 48.9 & 33.9 M.

NEWS: Hebrew: 7 a.m., 1.30, 6.00, 6.15, 8.30 & 11.00 p.m. Arabic Programme (including News): 8 a.m., 2.15 and 6.30 p.m.

6.20 a.m. Morning Programme (Haifa only). 6.30 Service. 6.35 Exercise. 6.45 Musical Clock (R). 7.10 Morning Melodies (R). 9.00 Service from the Orthodox Church, Ramle. 10.30 Close Down.

12.00 N. "Music at Noon" (R). 12.30 Housewives' Corner. 12.50 Requests (R). 1.20 Messages to Immigrants. 1.50 Break for Music (R). 2.30 Close Down.

4.00 p.m. Music for Christmas (R). 4.40 Intermezzo at the Piano (R). 5.00 Talmud Lesson. 5.30 Children's Hour. 7.00 Kindling of the Lights. 7.05 Kol Yisrael Orchestra, Conductor: Hanan Schlesinger; Songs for Hanukka. 7.30 Talk. 7.45 What's New in Science. 8.00 Wells of Work. 8.25 Bible Reading. 8.45 Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Conductor: Heintz Freudenthal: Overture "Leonore" No. 3 (Beethoven). Symphonic Dances on Greek Themes (Salomon). 9.30 Round Table Discussion. 10.00 Vocal Recital: Hannah Aharoni. 10.20 "Ron Bah" (R). 11.05 Close Down.

497, 460, 225, 216, 48.9 & 38.3 M.

English News: 1.45 p.m., 10.15 p.m.
French News: 2.00 p.m.

IMMIGRANTS HOUR: (25.2, 34.9 & 469 M.): 6.15 p.m. Programme for Yemenites. 6.30 French. 7.00 Ladino. 7.30 Yiddish. 8.00 Close Down. 8.45 p.m. Rumanian. 9.00 Hungarian. 9.15 Close Down.

KOL ZION LAGOLA: (33.3 M.): 11.15 p.m. Kindling of the Lights and News. 11.30 Personal Column. 11.35 Newsreel. 12.00 Talmud Lesson.

ARMY PROGRAMME (44.4, 218, 225 & 229 M.): 6.30 Opening. 6.35 Songs. 7.00 Galei Zahal Programmes. 7.10 Light Music. 7.30 Sports. 7.45 Requests. 8.30 News. 8.45 Light Music. 10.00 Close Down.

B.B.C. HEBREW BROADCASTS: (24.80, 24.92, 30.82 & 30.80 M.): 6.30–7.00 p.m. News, News Talk, Contact Programme, International Commentary.

LAW REPORT

The Jerusalem Post December 26, 1954

In the Supreme Court Sitting As Court of Criminal Appeal
Before the President (Justice Olshan), Justices Berinson and Witkon.
The Attorney General, Appellant, v. Mordechai Weiss, Respondent (Cr. A. 41/54).

Police Sergeants Authorised to Take Statements

The Supreme Court allowed an appeal against a decision of the Tel Aviv District Court delivered on May 27, 1953 (Cr.C. 713/52) according to which the respondent was found not guilty of giving false evidence and acquitted.

The respondent had been accused of giving evidence on oath in the Magistrate's Court which was contradictory to the statement he had made to Samal Leibowitz of the Police Force — an offence under section 4 (2) of the Criminal Procedure (Evidence) Ordinance, 1927. District Court Judge Malchi held that all but one of the essential criteria of the offence had been proved. What had not been proved was that Sergeant Leibowitz had been authorized to take a statement from the accused in accordance with section 2 (1) of the Ordinance which states that

...an officer of police of or above the rank of inspector... or any other person whom the High Commissioner has by writing under his hand authorised to hold enquiries into the commission of offences, may examine orally any person supposed to be acquainted with the facts and circumstances of any offence...

The District Court judge acquitted the accused on the three grounds that it had not been proved that the Sergeant (Samal) had been authorized to take statements; secondly, that the Sergeant had been legally authorized by the Minister of Justice, since the latter had failed to assume expressly the powers given to the High Commissioner to authorise persons to take statements; and thirdly that the assumption of this power after the event has retroactive force.

The Attorney General, represented by Mr. J. Bar-Or, appealed against this decision. The respondent appeared on his own behalf.

Judgment

Justice Witkon, who delivered the judgment of the Supreme Court, deplored the fact that the respondent had appeared without Counsel, thus depriving the Court of the benefit of hearing arguments counter to those proffered by Mr. Bar-Or. He then dealt with Judge Malchi's first point, holding that, contrary to the District Court's opinion, the authorization which Samal Leibowitz had produced must be regarded as an official document, according to sections 20 and 22 (d) of the Evidence Ordinance, and that, therefore, it was not necessary to prove that the signature on it was that of the Minister of Justice, since that could be legally presumed.

Justice Witkon dealt next with the second reason given by the District Court for acquitting the respondent, viz. that the Minister of Justice had not assumed the powers of the High Commissioner, according to section 1 of the Law and Administration (Further Provisions) Ordinance, 1948, which states that

...any Minister may assume any power which the laws within his scope of authority vest in certain officers for the purpose of their implementation.

Judge Malchi held that the Minister must expressly assume this power, but that even if it were argued that there was implied assumption of power, this was not sufficient, since assumption of power was a legislative act and had consequently to be published in *Reshumot* (section 10 (g) of the Law and Administration Ordinance, and section 17 of the Interpretation Ordinance).

Justice Witkon agreed with Mr. Bar-Or that there was no need of a general assumption of power on the part of the Minister, and that any step which the Minister might take in order to assume this power was administrative and not legislative and did not require publication. The Minister had therefore legally authorized Samal Leibowitz to take statements, and there was therefore no need to consider Judge Malchi's third point. Consequently, the respondent was guilty of giving false evidence.

In considering the punishment, the Court, taking account of the fact that this had been a first offence, that the respondent had suffered greatly during the war in Europe, and that his false testimony had not caused any miscarriage of justice, held that, in spite of the serious nature of the offence, it would take a lenient view. The respondent was bound over in IL.500 to be of good behaviour for one year.

Judgment given on December 15, 1954.

Lachish Settlement Begins Next Month

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Two settlements in the Lachish area — at Idneiba, near Kfar Menahem, and at Dir Duban, near Agur — are near completion and the first settlers are expected there in January.

The settlers in these two transition settlements will be employed in the construction of new villages, in preparing the land, and in afforestation work.

The settlement going up near the destroyed village of Idneiba contains 250 huts of two sizes. Each hut has a half dunam plot which can be used to raise vegetables or chickens.

In the centre of the settlement two clubs are being erected for young people and adults, two kindergartens, a school for the first three grades, a synagogue, and a labour exchange.

The work is being done by the Housing Department of the Jewish Agency. The construction of the buildings alone will cost IL.350,000, aside from the expense of paving roads and laying water pipes.

In the spring, work will begin on the construction of the permanent settlements in the area, and upon their completion the residents of the transition settlement will move into them making way for new immigrants.

THE COMING of 40 Yemenite families was celebrated in Moshav Yarhiv in the Little Triangle, by the veteran settlers and Jewish Agency representatives there on Friday. Houses and electricity had been prepared for the newcomers.

4 Records Set At Hapoel Meet

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Three national records and one club record were broken at the Hapoel track and field competition held at the Maccabi stadium here today.

David Kushner of the national Hapoel team won the Decathlon, 10-kilometre walk, with 4,650 points. The previous Israel record of 4,297 points was held by Ze'ev Kaspi, of Natanya.

Yitzhak Natanovitch, of Tel Aviv, won the 1,500 metre race in 4:23:4, beating the previous Israel youth record of 4:25:4 held by Zurdechevsky.

The Swedish relay race of 400, 300, 200 and 100 metres was won by Emek Jezreel Hapoel in 2:10:8. The previous Israel record was 2:14:4, held by Afikim Hapoel.

The 2,000 metre race was won by Benjamin Sadek, of Gan Shmuel, in 6:6. The previous Hapoel record held by Gover, of Hanita, was 6:14:2.

Friendly Football Matches

Haifa Maccabi 1, Ramat Gan Hapoel 0; Ramat Gan Maccabi 3, Jerusalem Maccabi 3; Tel Aviv Hakoah 4, Rehovot Hapoel 0; Jaffa Betar 2, Rishon-Le-Zion Hapoel 1, Haifa Hapoel 4, Jerusalem Betar 2.

Basketball

Tel Aviv Maccabi 88, B.M. Atid 39.

T.A. Hapoel Continue Unbeaten Cup Trend

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Tel Aviv Hapoel retained its clear lead in the Yosef Shapiro Memorial Cup Competition when it won its fourth successive game in the series at the Hapoel Ground in Jaffa today.

In a close game, marred by many fouls, the leaders defeated Tel Aviv Betar by 2:1. During the match Almaliach, of Betar, and Chodorov of Hapoel, were forced to leave the field because of injuries.

For the winners, goals were scored by Rosenbaum, after eight minutes, and Biut, 57 minutes, and Huly replied for Betar after 58 minutes. Hapoel's second came from a penalty.

In the other match, Tel Aviv Maccabi routed Jaffa Maccabi by 5:1. There was some brilliant forward play from the winners, who hold second place in the competition with six points from their four games. Studinski netted three of its goals, and the others came from Glaser, who was in great form, and Nahmia. At the present stage of the competition, with two matches still to be played, third position is held by Tel Aviv Betar, with two points, while Jaffa Maccabi is still without a single point from its four games.

Religious Services

JERUSALEM

St. Paul's Church (Musrara Qr.): Carol Service, 7 p.m. Preacher: Rev. Canon H.R.S. Jones.

St. Andrew's Church (Scots Memorial) M. S. 10 a.m. Vesper service united with Y.M.C.A. at 6.30 p.m.

Combined Evangelical Services (Y.M.C.A. Lecture Hall): 7.30 p.m. All Welcome.

Catholic: 6 a.m. German Hospice Chapel Languages: German, Italian, English, French. 7 a.m. Terra Sancta Chapel, Languages: English, French, German, Italian; St. Pierre de Sion (Ratisbonne), Languages: French, Arabic, English, German, Hungarian, Hebrew, Portuguese. 8 a.m. Jesuits Chapel (near King David Hotel). Languages: French, Polish, English, Italian, German; 9 a.m. Pierre de Sion. 10 a.m. Terra Sancta College.

Notre Dame de France (St. Paul's St.): M.S. 8 a.m. Languages: French, English, German, Italian.

American Gospel Church (Prophets St. near Bikur Holim): Morning Worship, 11 a.m., Mid-week Prayers: Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. Minister M.G. Gribenow.

Y.M.C.A. Christian Fellowship Vesper Service. 6 p.m. All welcome.

Brethren (Y.M.C.A., Room 110): Breaking of Bread, 5 p.m.

Church of the Nazarene (St. Julian's Way): E.S. 7.30 p.m.

Jerusalem Baptist Congregation (Opp. Gan Rehavia). Wednesday; Bible reading & Prayer, 8 p.m. Friday: E.S. 6 p.m. Saturday: Bible Study 10 p.m.

TEL AVIV & JAFFA

Anglican Church (Episcopal) in the Church of the former German Colony (on 19 Eilat St.): H.C., 7 a.m. M.P. 10 a.m. Carol Service 7 p.m. H.C., 8 p.m. Preacher: Rev. R.G. Allison, P.O.B. 2772.

Church of Scotland (St. Peter's) Jaffa M.S. 10 a.m. E.S. 7 p.m.

St. Peter's Church (Catholic). Jaffa Port: 7 a.m. Weekdays 6 p.m. Languages: French, Italian, Spanish.

HAIFA

St. Luke's Church: Mountain St., near Vine St. (Anglican Protestant: Episcopal): H.C., 7.30 a.m.: M.S. 10 a.m. E.S. 6.30 (P.O.B. 1797).

Scandinavian Seamen's Church Mount St. 61 (P.O.B. 1905, Rev. Risto Santala) Evang. Luth. Ser. German. Tuesday: Bible Study, 8 p.m.

JERUSALEM CINEMAS

At 3.30, 6.30 and 8.30 p.m.

ARNON: Stars of the Russian Ballet.
EDEN: Lili, 2nd week. Also today at 10.30 a.m.
EDISON: Abbott and Costello Meet Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.
ORGIL: I'll See You in my Dreams.
ORION: King of the Khyber Rifles.
ORNA: The Juggler.
RON: A City on Trial.
STUDIO: The Angel with the Trumpet.
TEL OR: One Minute to Zero, Today at 10.30 a.m. Tarzan and the She-Devil.
ZION HALL: L'affaire Mauricius.

Where to go

JERUSALEM

★ **Exhibitions:—**

"Conquest of the Desert" permanent exhibition at the former Israel pavilion of the international "Conquest of the Desert" Exhibition, 10-1, 4-6 p.m.

Ceramics, Mrs. F. Reiss and pupils, Y.M.C.A. 9-1, 4-7. Also tomorrow.

Department of Antiquities, special exhibition: Excavations of a Cana'anite Temple on the seashore of Nahariya (XVIIIth-XVth centuries B.C.E.), 25 Rehov Shlomo Hamelech. Open 9-1.

"Hommage a Matisse."—"Master drawings" Exhibit of the month: Woven tapestry, Persia, Middle Ages: Bezalel Museum, 9-1, 4-6.

Dead Sea Scrolls: Hebrew University Administration Building, 67 King George, until tomorrow, 3-6 p.m.

★ **Conference:—**

15th annual meeting of Israel Chemical Association on Physical and Inorganic Chemistry (2 days). Beit Hahalutzot, 10 a.m. Symposium on "Desalting of Brackish Water", in memory of Professor L. Farkas, auspices Hebrew University and Chemical Association, 3.30 p.m.

★ **Tours:—**

Hebrew University conducted tour, new Administration Building, King George Ave., opposite Terra Sancta, 10 a.m.

★ **Lecture:—**

Prof. S. Sambursky on "The UNESCO Scientific Congress in Montevideo", Be'eri Club, 9 Rehov Alharizi, 8.30 p.m.

TEL AVIV

★ **Concert:—**

Police Band, Tel Aviv Zoo; 10.30 a.m.

★ **Exhibitions:—**

Paintings by "The Independents" Adam, Wiesenfeld, Harouti, Calahorra, Shulman, Katz Art Gallery, 97 Dizengoff Road, 10-1, 3-7.

1) Jacob Wechsler, recent oil paintings, 1954. 2) Drawings by Masters of the Italian Renaissance (reproductions). Open daily 10-4; Fridays, Saturdays 10-1; Sundays 4-10 p.m. — Tel Aviv Museum.

Victor Marchese, Argentine Sculptor, Z.O.A. House (10-12; 6-8).

★ **Theatre:—**

Habimah, "Hedva And I", Habimah, 11 a.m. (Performance for Youth.)

Habimah, "The Wild Duck," Habimah, 8 p.m.

"Casablan", Chamber Theatre, Mograbi, 8 p.m.

HAIFA

★ **Lecture:—**

Mr. Bertram Gross of the Economic Advisory Board, on "Pressure Groups and Economic Policy". Auspices: Economic and Statistical Society, 8.30 p.m. Technion Hall No. 12.

RAMAT GAN

★ **Zirafron:—**

Josephine Baker with a grand Circus Revue, 3, 6.30 & 9.30 p.m.

RISHON LEZION

★ **Theatre:—**

Habimah, "The Caine Mutiny", 8 p.m.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: Ruhama, 26, David Yellin, 2788. Rasnik, 15, Gaza, 3662.
TEL AVIV: Magen David, 35, Allenby, 66426. Frankel, 29, King George, 3721. Nordau, 162, Ben Yehuda, 26073. Reitblatt, 19 Nahlat Binyamin. Maccabi, New Maccabi Qr., 67296. **JAFFA:** Sa'ad, 24, Rehov 1, 81445. **RAMAT GAN:** Hygea, 52 Arlosoroff. **RAMAT YITZHAK:** Hasharon, 19, Yerushalayim. **B'NEI BRAK:** Shapiro, Rehov Haroshi. **HAIFA:** Herzl, 42, Herzl, 2916. Mashiah, opp. Hadar cinema, 3068. **KIRYAT MOTZKIN:** Pentagon.

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

JERUSALEM: Dr. Eiges, 10, Straus, 3062. Dr. Krauss, 28, Gaza, 3060. Dr. Greenwald, 8/30, Greek Colony, 63962.
TEL AVIV: Dr. M. Shaham, 1 Syrkin, 25842. Dr. N.L. Sacher, 165 Dizengoff, 26863. Dr. I. Griffel, 5 Ben Yehuda, 25496.
HAIFA: Dr. Sherman, 8, Hanevi'im, 3434. Dr. Landau, Orly Cinema Bldg., 6832.

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TODAY or TOMORROW

All men born between March 13, 1937 and September 5, 1937, whose surname starts with the latter

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must report for registration, medical and other examinations to determine their health category for Defence Service.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Manpower Dept.
No. 706. Recruiting Office.

פנת
מס הכנסה

Income Tax Declarations

Within a short time salaried and self-employed earners will receive their Income Tax declaration forms if they have not yet received them.

These forms should be completed upon receipt and returned, together with required documents, to the Income Tax Administration, Jerusalem.

Salaried employees must attach to their declaration Form No.3 in which the employer states the amount of salary paid and of tax withheld. If an employee derived his income from more than one place of employment during the fiscal year 1952/53, he should attach Forms No.3 from all of his employers.

All persons with taxable incomes who will not have received Income Tax declaration forms through the mail by February 28, 1955, should apply for such forms at the Income Tax Bureau nearest to their place of residence.

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HAIFA:	1 Khayat Street; Hadar Bookshop, Rehov Herzl; Sifri's Bookshop, Central Carmel; Dr. Fiegel's Bookshop, 36 Rehov Keren Kayemet, Kiryat Bialik
RAMAT GAN:	Hakol Lanoar
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Personal

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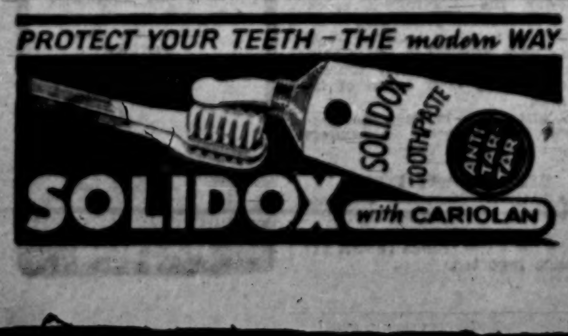
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Today's Post Bag

THE WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair to partly cloudy.

	A	B	C	D
Mt. Cana'an	75	6	11	13
Tiberias	61	12	19	20
Haifa Port	51	12	19	20
Natanya	57	13	16	19
Tel Aviv Kirya	—	—	—	19
Tel Aviv Port	61	12	17	18
Lydda Airport	43	8	19	20
Jerusalem	60	7	14	15
Beersheba	59	5	—	21
Sdom	—	—	—	23
Eilat	66	11	—	26

*A) Humidity at 2 p.m. B) Minimum temp. C) Maxim. yesterday. D) Maximum temp. expected today.

RAINFALL

	Rainfall on Friday (in mm.)	Total since August 1 (in mm.)
Hafzi-Bah	0.3	93.7
Ramatayim	0.5	194.8
Tel Aviv	0.7	280.8
Kfar Sirkin	0.8	233.0
Lydda	1.1	171.6
Rehovot	1.5	281.8
Ekron	1.6	206.2
Jerusalem	1.2	139.9
Beersheba	2.8	68.0

HANUKKA TORCHES are to be lit on all the four buildings in the Demilitarized Zone on Mt. Scopus at 6 p.m. tonight — weather permitting.

A MATERNITY GRANT of IL.25 was awarded to Mrs. M. Ratzon, 29, of Ness Ziona by Magistrate M. Rubin, at the National Insurance Tribunal in Tel Aviv on Friday. Mrs. Ratzon was not given the full grant of IL.55 as her baby was born at home.

A FLAG DAY for Magen David Adom will be held in Tel Aviv today.

BORDER POLICEMEN and their wives were entertained at a party arranged by the Sharon Settlements Security Committee on Thursday. Mr. Y. Landau, Chairman of the Central Regional Council, and Mr. M. Surkis, Chairman of the Kfar Saba Council, addressed the guests.

MR. GUR BEN ARI, 18, a student of the Herzlia Gymnasium in Tel Aviv, leaves for New York today to represent Israel at the annual high school forum sponsored by "The New York Herald Tribune." Participating in the forum are representatives of 34 countries, including Pakistan, Jordan, Egypt, the Lebanon, and West Germany.

A IL.300 FINE with the alternative of three months in prison was imposed on Ya'acov Bogin by the Jerusalem District Court on Friday for using inflammable material while welding pipes in the fields of Harel settlement in the Jerusalem Corridor last August, causing a fire which destroyed 5,000 trees and 20 dunams of hay. *(Ttim)*

45 New-Old Taxis Salute Minister

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — As part of a scheme to replace old taxis, 45 second-hand De Soto seven-passenger cars, 1952 model, were lined up in front of the Tel Aviv North railway station yesterday for inspection by the Minister of Communications, Mr. Joseph Saphir. The drivers were told that each would pay approximately IL.6,000 for his new car. This price includes a new engine, gearbox, clutch assembly and radiator.

The cars were bought in the U.S. by the Histadrut-affiliated taxi drivers organization. Mr. Saphir said that the transaction seemed to have been worthwhile.

Haifa 'Sherut' Strike

HAIFA, Saturday. — Regular *sherut* travellers from work in the lower part of the city were forced to wait in the rain for buses here at noon yesterday as a result of a strike by *sherut* taxi drivers, in protest against being forbidden to park at their usual spot in Rehov Jaffa here.

The taxis formed a long line at the parking place, but the drivers refused to travel. They complained that the Municipality is doing everything to put them out of work.

REMANDED FOR FALSE EVIDENCE OF AGE

On suspicion of having made false declarations under oath in connection with the age of Maurice Sasson, a soldier, Salah Sati, 24, and Menashe Sabah, 56, of the Kheirea *ma'abara* near Tel Aviv, were remanded in custody for five days on Friday by Jerusalem Magistrate M. Even Tov.

According to the police, the men stated that they knew the family of Sasson, (who also has been remanded on suspicion of the same offence) and that they were present at his circumcision in 1921. Investigation showed that the men had never known the family and that they had each received IL.30 for making the declaration, the police claimed. The Magistrate instructed the police to speed up their investigation. *(Ttim)*

2,000 Pilgrims Cross J'lem Border

Jerusalem Post Staff

The early morning mist was hanging heavily over St. George's Road on Friday, as Jerusalem's first pilgrims began to queue up at Mandelbaum Gate to pass into Jordan for the Christmas festivities. A few hours later, the street was packed with hundreds of men, women and children lining up at the entrance of the 10-metre-long canvas "tunnel" leading into the tents housing the customs, health and police authorities.

Diplomats and other important personages went the usual way through Rehov Shmuel Hanavi.

Most of the 2,000 pilgrims carried empty or full suitcases — apparently with presents they intended to give or those they expected to receive.

The large police contingent on duty found difficulty in forming an orderly queue. Nevertheless, most of the pilgrims had passed through to the Jordan side by 1 p.m.

Correspondents who tried to enter "Mandelbaum Square" together with the pilgrims also complained that the police, despite advance assurances, were unable to help them. But they had the dubious satisfaction of seeing their Jordan colleagues being prevented by the Arab Legion from approaching the Israelis.

Jordan Rejections

As in previous years, the Jordan authorities turned back a dozen persons although their names had previously been approved and appeared on the official list.

The Minister of Interior, Mr. I. Rokach, the District Representative, Dr. A. Biran, the head of the Truce Supervision Organization, General E.L.M. Burns, and the Chairman of the Israel-Jordan MAC, Colonel C. Brewster, paid a visit to Mandelbaum Gate to observe the arrangements.

In the evening, General Burns accompanied the annual procession of the Jerusalem Consular Corps, including the representatives of France, the U.S., Britain, Italy, Belgium and Spain, which travelled to Bethlehem by the old direct road. By that time the weather had become fine and a real Christmas spirit prevailed as Dr. Biran bade the Consuls a Merry Christmas and godspeed.

Because of the Sabbath, Dr. Biran did not drive with the convoy as far as the border just north of the Mar Eliaz monastery, as he has done in previous years.

American oil and water drillers who remained at their posts in the Negev throughout the Christmas holiday, sent their wives to Bethlehem. Among those crossing was the Italian film star, Miss Silvana Pampanini.

In the new city, midnight masses were held in the Church of the Dormition, Terra Sancta, Ratisbonne and smaller chapels. A well-attended carol service was held in the YMCA auditorium.

Nazareth Peace

Peace reigned in Nazareth on Christmas eve. The town was open to all, with no police restriction at the approaches as of recent years. Hotels had better bookings than for several years, but last-minute visitors were fewer because of the bad weather. Some 700 who visited the town went on to Jerusalem.

Restaurants, which were crowded, were brightly illuminated and were decorated with Christmas trees and coloured streamers.

The main service was held in the Church of the Annunciation (Catholic) on the site where, according to Franciscan belief, the Archangel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would bear a son, Jesus.

At midnight, singing could be heard throughout the town from the many churches, including "the Synagogue," the Greek Catholic church built on the site of the synagogue in which Jesus is said to have worshipped. In restaurants, radios relayed the service from Bethlehem.

In Jaffa, some 600 persons attended midnight mass, conducted by Franciscan Father Luigi, in the Church of Saint Anthony.

Druze Soldiers Dance Their Thanks to T.A.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Members of the Druze unit yesterday ended their three-day visit as guests of this city with an impromptu exhibition of their national dances in Dizengoff Square here. Earlier, they had been given a farewell dinner party organized by the Soldiers' Welfare Committee, the Municipality and the Ministry of Defence.

The contribution of Druze units to the Defence of the State was lauded by Mr. Shimon Peres, Director General of the Ministry, who brought greetings from the Minister, Mr. Pinhas Lavon, and expressed gratitude for the services they had rendered to this country.

Mr. Yehuda Nedivi, the Town Clerk, and Mr. S. Rusetzky and Mrs. Dvora Yechieli, of the Welfare Committee, also complimented the guests on their exemplary behaviour during their stay.

A member of the unit, Rav-Samal Sala Sweed, thanked the Municipality on behalf of his comrades, for the "wonderful hospitality" tendered on what was, for most of them, their first visit to Tel Aviv.

POLICE BARRED FROM HAPOEL SPORTS

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Members of the police force are barred by a recent order from taking part in Hapoel sports events, *The Jerusalem Post* learns.

The order followed Hapoel's objection to a policeman, who had formerly been a member of the club, taking part in the Tabor race. Claiming that former affiliation was no concern of Hapoel, the police took no part in the race and instructed their members to refrain from participating in Hapoel and sport events.

Sprinzak Prize

An Aharon David Sprinzak Prize for the best essay on a subject related to parliament or international relations has been established at the Hebrew University by Mr. Joseph Sprinzak, Speaker of the Knesset, in memory of his son who fell in the defence of Tel Aviv during the War of Liberation. The IL.500 prize is to be awarded annually, commencing 1955, on the anniversary of the aviator's death.

Gov't to Discuss Coast Pipeline

Plans for the construction of an oil pipeline from Haifa to Tel Aviv are to be discussed by the Committee of Economics Ministers in the very near future, the Fuel Controller, Mr. Y. Kosloff, told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

From London, the "Jewish Observer" reports that the 100 kilometre pipeline would be composed of six-inch pipes to carry kerosene, petrol and fuel oil. It would cost £1m. and IL.2m. A special company would be formed for the purpose, in which the Government would own about ten per cent.

The "Jewish Observer" added that negotiations were in progress with British oil companies to obtain their participation in the scheme which would substantially reduce fuel transport costs.

Scientists Should Study Local Needs—Blackett

Israel's unique climatic, water and soil conditions should be studied by her scientists in the same way that Western scientists work within the framework of their own needs, Professor Patrick M.S. Blackett, Professor of Physics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology London, said in a broadcast over Kol Yisrael last night.

Professor Blackett, who is here at the invitation of the Weizmann Insitute of Science, said that while "pure" science would not make a country any richer, it was an excellent training ground for scientists going into applied sciences.

The large-scale use of "peaceful" atomic energy was necessary in backward areas, if these countries were to reach the Western standard of living, Professor Blackett noted. While the practical use of such power is still a long way off countries such as Israel, Australia or India should queue up now for atomic power stations which, Professor Blackett noted, would probably be exported one day by the U.S., England, France and perhaps the Soviet Union.

The speaker expressed his optimism as to the chances of peace in view of the growing awareness of the major powers, especially during the past few months, of the terrible destructive power of the hydrogen bomb.

CRASH. — Eleven people were killed in a collision between two trucks on the Potchefstroom-Johannesburg road on Friday night.

Fire Damages Hula Dredger

TIBERIAS, Saturday. — A fire on Thursday night completely wrecked the engine of the large dredger employed on the Hula drainage scheme by the Construction Aggregates Corporation. Two persons suffered slight burns. The dredger, which has been in operation in the central channel, will be out of service for a considerable time, experts say. The damage is estimated at many thousands of dollars.

The cause of the fire is being investigated.

A smaller dredger is now busily throwing up a dam around the peat area and the Hula wild life reservation.

Ben Gurion to Confer On 'Labour Front'

TIBERIAS, Saturday. — Mr. David Ben Gurion is to meet here this week with Mr. Y. Tabenkin, veteran Ahdut Ha'avoda leader, to discuss a joint labour front for the next Knesset elections.

Today, Mr. Ben Gurion received a delegation of 50 seamen who consulted him on their organisational and professional problems.

Aluf David Shaltiel and Aluf Shlomo Shamir also met Mr. Ben Gurion.

Gruenbaum May Form New Party

HADERA, Saturday. — Mr. Yitzhak Gruenbaum, Minister of Interior in the Provisional State Council, stated at Gan Shmuel yesterday that he was prepared to stand for the Knesset at the head of a list whose aim would be "Peace, Work and Equality of Sacrifice," at a ceremony in which he was made the first Honorary Citizen of the Menashe Regional Council. The 400,000 persons who had signed the Peace Petition might form the core of the new Party, he added.



Mr. Gruenbaum

Mr. Gruenbaum stood unsuccessfully as an Independent in the First Knesset elections. Originally a General Zionist and Progressive, he has lately contributed weekly articles to the Mapam daily, "Al Hamishmar." He was nominated by Mapam for the Presidency after the death of President Weizmann.

B.G. Gives Scouts Three Duties

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TIBERIAS, Saturday. — The Israel Scout movement should make its chief aim the settlement of under-developed areas, the fostering of national defence, and the creation of the foundation for a new society, Mr. David Ben Gurion told the 21st National Conference of Israel Scouts at the Ohalo centre, at Kinneret today. The best method of mixed settlement was veterans and newcomers together in one village, but if that was impracticable, newcomers and Israel youth should settle neighbouring villages in the same area, he said.

He supported the proposal of his fellow Sde Boker member, Mr. Yehoshua Levi, (a former Stern Group member), who suggested that the Scout movement should devote itself to the Negev and direct all its energies to that goal.

The Chief of Staff, Rav-Aluf Moshe Dayan, told the delegates that the movement should educate its members towards service in the Regular Army. This did not contradict the pioneering ideal which most youth movements had inscribed on their banner, he said.

Educational questions were the subject of addresses by Mr. Y. Shapira, Deputy Principal of the Reali School in Haifa and Mr. A. Yedlin of Hatzerim.

The conference ended with the adoption of several resolutions, including one stating it to be an obligation on Israel Scouts to do their duty to the State and settle on the land.

At a graduation ceremony at Tel Katzir, tonight, the 90-man Amir training group of Tel Aviv, which has concluded training at Sde Boker, announced its decision to settle in the Negev.

THE HIGH COURT on Friday rejected an application for an order nisi questioning the legality of the elections to the Agriculture Committee of the Hadar Ramatayim Council held three weeks ago. The application was made by a clerk of the Town's Labour Council, Mr. Moshe Yanovitz.

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Cables in Brief

MIRACLE. — A hen at Uffculme, Devonshire, has laid an egg for Christmas weighing more than seven and a half ounces. Inside it is another fully shelled egg a third of normal size.

VIDEO. — The first television station in Libya has been opened at an American air force base near Tripoli.

INSIGNIFICANT. — Portugal issued a protest on Friday night against the amount of publicity given in India about "absolutely insignificant" incidents on the borders of Portuguese enclaves in India.

KILLED. — Fleming Olemueller, 27-year-old Danish explorer, has been killed by South American Indians using poisoned arrows in the wilds of the Matto Grosso — the same area where Colonel Percy Fawcett, the British explorer, disappeared 20 years ago.

CUSTODY. — Rita Hayworth was given formal custody of her two daughters on Friday. The judge declared that the children were getting "proper care." The court relinquished control of the custody of the children, Rebecca Welles, 9, and Princess Yasmin Khan 4.

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NATION-WIDE RALLIES HONOUR SECOND ALIYA

Jerusalem Post Staff

About 400 veterans of the Second and Third Aliyot had an informal get together at the Youth Hostel in Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem, yesterday under the auspices of the Jerusalem Labour Council. There were no set speeches after Mr. Moshe Baram, the Secretary, had greeted the President, who was present with Mrs. Ben-Zvi, on his 70th birthday.

Community singing was led by Mr. Y. Admon and several of the old-timers present told of their recollections of the early days. David Vardi, of the Habimah Theatre, entertained the gathering with impressions of Avraham Harzfeld and other well-known figures.

Mrs. Ben-Zvi recalled the first contact of the settlers with the soil of Israel and with Jerusalem in particular.

Professor Benzion Dinur, Minister of Education, Mrs. Golda Myerson, Minister of Labour, and Mr. Zalman Shazar, member of the Jewish Agency Executive, were also present.

Tasks Accomplished

The two tasks which the men of the Second Aliyah had set themselves: the building up of the Zionist Organization and the establishment of the State of Israel, had been accomplished, said Mr. Peretz Naphtali, the Minister of Agriculture, at a celebration of the Second Aliya Jubilee held by the Histadrut in Rehovot on Friday. The mission of this generation was to achieve economic independence for the State, he declared.

Some 250 Histadrut veterans in Rehovot set out yesterday for a tour of the mining areas in the Negev.

Meetings to mark the Histadrut anniversary and the Second Aliya Jubilee were also arranged in most Sharon settlements on Friday night.

Mr. Ben Gurion took part in a gathering in honour of the Second Aliya held last night at Kvutzat Kinneret. The construction of a monument in memory of Ben Zion Israeli, killed in the Ma'agan disaster in July, was discussed.

Mizrahi Leader Dies

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — Rabbi Menahem Hager, chairman of the Central Committe of Mizrahi, died at the Assuta Hospital here yesterday morning. He was 65. The *cortege* will leave his home at 29 Rehov Harav Kook, at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Rabbi Hager, who was also the head of the local burial society, was a native of Poland where he was the religious head of several Jewish communities and was active in Zionist work. He came to this country in 1943 from Siberia. He is survived by his wife, three sons and two daughters.

PROF. PAULING

Professor Linus Pauling is in Israel as the guest of the Hebrew University and not of the Weizmann Institute, as reported by ITIM last week, the University stated yesterday.

20,000 Attend Bond Hanukka Fete

More than 20,000 purchasers of State of Israel Bonds filled Madison Square Garden at a Hanukka festival on Thursday which provided $2.5m. in Israel Bond proceeds, the Bond Organization reports.

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Levi Eshkol, who was guest of honour, presented a Hanukka Torch of Freedom to the people of New York in recognition of their Israel Bond efforts. The torch was accepted by the New York Bond Chairman, Mr. Ira Guilden. The Chairman of the Festival, Dr. Israel Goldstein, described the event as "the largest, most inspiring and most successful Hanukka celebration in 300 years of American Jewish history."

Mr. Eshkol stressed that Israel Bond finances are needed for Israel's very survival. "Wherever you go in Israel today, you will see results of Israel Bond investments, which you and hundreds of thousands like you, have made during the past four years."

YOUTHS COMMIT 60% OF THEFTS, BURGLARIES

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Sixty per cent of all cases of theft and house-breaking from January to October of this year were committed by young persons, Mr. Behor Shitreet, the Minister of Police, told a Histadrut meeting in Jerusalem on Friday.

Mr. Shitreet noted that the incidence of delinquency was highest in the three major cities and lowest in the villages and *ma'barot*.

Trained youth leaders were the best means of cutting down the crime rate among juveniles, he said.

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Conductor: SERGIU CELIBIDACHE
Thursday, Dec. 30, 9 p.m. at "Armon" Theatre.
A limited number of tickets available at Ginzburg's office, 23 Rehov Herzl, Haifa.
Furthermore, subscribers are requested to note the dates of
Subscription Concert No. 5
Conductor: SERGIU CELIBIDACHE
Soloist: ALDO CICCOLINI (Piano)
PROGRAMME: Overture "Ruslan and Ludmilla," Glinka; Concerto for Piano and Orchestra — Schumann; Symphony No. 5 — Shostakovitch.
TEL AVIV:
"Ohel Shem" Hall, 8.30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 3 — Series "1"
Tuesday, Jan. 4 — "Workers"
Sunday, Jan. 9 — Series "2"
Monday, Jan. 10 — Series "3"
Sunday, Jan. 16 — Series "4"
Tuesday, Jan. 18 — Series "5"
Wed. Jan. 19 — Series "6"
HAIFA:
"Armon" Theatre, 9 p.m.
Wed. Jan. 5 Series "1"
Thursday, Jan. 6 — Series "2"
JERUSALEM:
"Edison" Hall, 9 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 13.

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Tevet 1, 5715. — Rabia Tani 30, 1374

THE recent disturbances in Egypt and the opening of the final death struggle between the junta and the Moslem Brotherhood are symptomatic of the bad relationship which exists between the army and the citizen, not only in Egypt but in most of the Arab states. Thus Syria is to all intents and purposes in the grip of a military dictatorship, Saudi Arabia is ruled by a despotic monarch who uses the army as his main instrument of power, and Jordan's only real claim to existence lies in its Arab Legion for the sake of which Britain is prepared to support that kingdom financially and in other ways.

ARMY AND PEOPLE

There is a mistaken belief which appears to be dominant in some sections of the West, today, that leadership imposed by an adequate army is the same as a strong and stable government. This lies at the root of the support of those regimes in the face of all the social and economic facts. But it is only when the army is completely the instrument of the civilian authority in the State that the purposes of peace can be properly served and diplomacy can be encouraged to find solutions for troubles, taking it as axiomatic that the use of armed force must be the final resort only. The army is the instrument responsible for external security while the citizen searches for internal progress. It is significant that in Britain the army only exists from annual vote to annual vote by Parliament. This provision expresses the relationship between the two bodies in the state.

That Israel is the only stable democracy in the Middle East may not be unconnected with the fact that there has been no real divergence between the soldier and the statesman from the very beginning of the State. And even before it, Haganah represented the voluntary assumption by private citizens of additional duties in the service of the Yishuv. One of the principles laid down by Mr. Ben Gurion was that the army as a disciplined body should seek as much direct contact as possible with the citizens, in order to strengthen public morale. Not only did the army undertake the policing of the frontier, but it also rallied to the relief of the *ma'barot*, to give one example. This policy has been followed in spite of the fact that there were some who tried to urge the idea that the army was a completely segregated unit whose job it was to prepare for fighting the enemy, albeit at as remote a date as possible. Such a principle might apply to an army which is regarded by diplomacy as an instrument to be taken out of the chest and polished up when circumstances warrant it. An enlightened diplomacy neither regards the army as such an instrument, nor allows it to create facts which make policy.

The identification of the army with the citizens of the country is even more a matter of the highest urgency when it is a force based upon a universal call-up of the youth. Then it is essential that the moral principles of the army be those for which the majority of the nation stands. In this country, in particular, where the bulk of the armed forces is in the Reserves, an identity of purpose between the civilian and the military man is indispensable to any defence preparedness. General de Gaulle's memoirs, now appearing in Paris, make it evident to what extent the discrepancy of mind between politicians at the helm of France in 1940 and military experts was fatal for that country. Thus, says De Gaulle, Weygand, who was appointed Chief of Staff, was the best chief of operations available but he had not the spirit to fight for a "cause." Britain, on the other hand, had at the head of affairs in the same critical juncture a man who understood that the army was only the nation at war.

The lesson of the present Arab troubles, particularly in Egypt, is that the army is unfit to govern a state and therefore must not be permitted to make policy. After all it is trained to fight, while the civilian leader becomes a statesman to the extent that he trains himself to build. But he too will not fail to join the power of the army for good.

Parliament at Work

Voting to be on Same System

By LEA BEN DOR

ALTHOUGH the official vote is only due next week, it is now clear that the elections to the Third Knesset, together with municipal elections, will take place on July 26, 1955, the date finally approved by the Elections Sub-Committee of the Knesset Laws Committee last week. Pundits in these matters had happily discovered that the formula devised in the 1954 Election Bill, (now being processed in Committee for final reading), namely "the Tuesday of the fourth week before the week in which the outgoing Knesset is dissolved," clashed with the present Bill, and after a good deal of thought July 26 was agreed upon, and is certain to be ratified.

More important at present than this date is the so-called "Qualifying Date," December 31, the date on which electors must satisfy the conditions in order to be entitled to vote. This date, less than a week off, leaves a minimum of time for last-minute registrations and rules out the artificial population shifts that have been foretold by the right-wing parties in connection with the elections for local authorities.

Even though the General Zionist Party has now belatedly approved a 20-district half-and-half system, the Knesset vote will again be taken by the proportional system — barring an improbable last-minute crisis, and this is likely, — while the local elections are, of course, entirely on the electoral district system, and it will be instructive to watch the two systems operate side by side. The elections of 1950 and the Knesset elections of 1951 were only some seven months apart, together making what seemed an eternity of election talk.

Minimum Age 18

Since 1950, the minimum age for voters in local elections has been 18, as for the Knesset, on the principle that boys and girls old enough to serve in the Army are old enough to help choose their government. For the local elections there is also a six-month residence qualification, while one of the bones of contention of the Knesset requirements is that the voter, in addition to being an Israeli, must also be a "registered resident." This condition excludes certain Arabs who are entitled to citizenship by birth, but did not remain in their homes during the War of Liberation and now, though not actually illegally in Israel, have not retrieved their full status of citizens who remained in the Jewish areas throughout.

Both Mapam and Ahdut Ha'avoda would have preferred a later qualifying date, and for more than one reason. It is perfectly true that both these groups, now small in numbers, suffer a curious disadvantage in the local elections because of the wasteful concentration of their voters brought about by the collective ideology principle. In theory a certain amount of judicious readjusting of voting strengths might have taken place, given enough time, and strategic blocs of votes placed where they would have done their respective parties the most good. In actual fact, this was probably not much more than a pipe-dream for the Mapam splinters, and one of the anti-Mapai bogeys of the General Zionists. Certainly, with December 31 as the qualifying date the residence requirement has been prolonged to 13 months, a long time in the rapidly-changing face of the new Israel that is springing up both north and south. It will be discouraging and disappointing for many proud new citizens of several months' standing to discover that they are already too late to be allowed to take part in next July's election of local councils.

The Election Committee had no choice in this matter but to accept the statement of the Ministry of the Interior that no later day will permit them to have the lists ready in time. Mr. David Bar Rav Hay, in the discussions on this issue again pressed his point that the elections lists should be maintained permanently, and be fully brought up to date every year. Without this no emergency election is possible at all, and any question of dissolving the Knesset as the result of a political crisis becomes illusory: if a new House cannot be elected in less than eight or nine months for lack of lists, then clearly a Knesset also cannot be dissolved at short notice.

The question of the age-limit pressed by Mr. Bar Yehuda, of Ahdut Ha'avoda, has more chance of succeeding, and is to be brought up again this week. As matters now stand, voters will have to be 18 years and almost seven months next July in order to be allowed to vote. As the age of the voters next summer is the only factor that can be estimated at all reliably, it would be no more difficult to make the appropriate lists include all persons who would be 18 by the day of the election than on the qualifying date, and it would need only a very minor change in the wording of the law. On the whole the politically more aggressive parties, and those with active youth movements, expect to benefit from the inclusion of such younger groups, and it is likely that some concession will be made to them in this respect.

ENQUIRY INTO 'VOLUNTEERS' SUGGESTED

THE parliamentary immunity of Mr. S. Rosenberg, the Mizrahi member, was finally revoked last week, after what was generally felt to be an impressive and sensible speech on the part of Mr. Rosenberg himself reaffirming that he had not broken the law either on his own acount or for his party. How soon the case will come up depends a good deal on the length of time it takes Mr. Rosenberg's Counsel to prepare the defence, for which witnesses may be needed from abroad.

Distressing enough in itself, the case has also served to focus attention on the *Shurat Hamitnadvim*, a group of young people whose activities show a dichotomy that is positively bewildering, and it has been suggested that there should be a parliamentry inquiry into their operation. The avowed, registered purposes of their association are to assist the integration of immigrants and to protect public morality, by which they mean the private financial ethics of public employees. While they have undoubtedly done good work in the former branch, they pursue the latter with a ferocious passion and total disregard of the rights of the individual to be checked upon, questioned, judged and pilloried only by properly qualified and appointed persons that can be compared in our day only with the Naturei Karta's most objectionable ways with people who do not obey the law as *they* interpret it.

It cannot be denied that many offenders, big and little, escape the network of police vigilance; sometimes because they are clever, and sometimes because Israel is not a Police State. There are many places in which a little spiritual renewal, or even a great spiritual upheaval, could do nothing but good. In reply, the Government has made a systematic effort to stamp out irregularities, to improve the position of civil servants, and to educate them to a consciousness of the dignity and responsibilities of their privileged positon, which alone can keep out corruption.

There is neither dignity nor self-respect in the picture of petty pilferers reported on by their colleagues in the *Mitnadvim*, and exposed or protected at the sole judgment of the group of zealots that have set up shop in morality in a dirty unswept corner of the Students' Club in Jerusalem. The officials who manage to escape the vigilance of their superiors, of the justly-feared and respected Government Comptroller and of the Police, and succeed in feathering their nests, will probably also escape the amateur sleuths of the *Mitnadvim*. But what a heaven-sent opportunity for the jealous colleague, the employee who has been told off by the boss, the man whose wife has quarrelled with the people upstairs! They can take their story to the *Shurat Hamitnadvim*. Two young men are always ready to listen and note it all down, including the lies, the slander and the blackmail, avidly, for that is what they are there for.

Account Contradicted

Mr. Eliakim Ha'etzni, the spokesman at the group's press meeting, one of the group's three paid members, flatly contradicted the account given by another member of the way in which the documents in the Rosenberg case had been obtained, the one saying they had been collected "directly" and the other saying they had only read the newspaper accounts of the charges made by the Attorney General. (A pressman interrupted them with a smile to say that, with due respect, this was not a reliable way of collecting evidence.)

His colleague, Dr. Leibovitz, who would probably be quite willing to describe himself as a fanatic in the pursuit of public decency, said with genuine bitterness that, for instance, the 120 Knesset members had not even been elected by the public, but simply placed on election lists by their parties. Nobody has elected Mr. Ha'etzni to guard the public conscience, and while his honesty of purpose is not to be doubted, he has not the qualifications for a prosecutor and judge, one of which should be a charitable spirit. More important still, he is responsible only to his 300 or so friends. Meanwhile, he is working hard to set up a perfect framework for the first political gangster or private blackmailer to step into and throw him out, probably by accusing him of having robbed the till.

5,000 YEAR-OLD STATUE



Detail from a 37 cm. high statue, made from bone about 5,000 years ago, which was found recently near Beersheba by Jean Perrot, head of the French Archaeological Mission.

Photo by Volk

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Miss H.S. Ferreira, P/bag 643, Louis Trichardt, N. Transvaal, South Africa; and H. van Huysstean, Jr., 35 Orange St., Heibron, O.V.S., South Africa.

Gap Widens Between Egypt and League

Council Fails to Agree on West

By GAD MOR

THE 22nd session of the Arab League Council adjourned without solving the most thorny problem preoccupying its members — relations with the West.

The postponement of the session, which had opened formally on October 30, followed the inability of Iraq and Egypt to formulate at the time a clear stand on the major issues facing the League. Nuri Said was too busy putting before the British and the Turks his ideas on Middle Eastern Defence built on the Arab Security Pact. The Cairo junta had its hands full with the Moslem Brotherhood, and was outraged by the sympathy shown for the Brotherhood in other Arab countries.

By the time the League had reconvened on November 27, the Iraqi Premier had returned to Baghdad, presumably empty-handed; the excitement had died down somewhat in Egypt; and Syrians had shown their goodwill toward Cairo by curbing the activities of their own "mighty" Brothers. There was just one more obstacle to overcome: the Egyptians' decision not to head their delegation to the meetings of the political committee with their Foreign Minister, like the other countries.

Egypt's Salah Salem threatened a few weeks earlier that Egypt would leave the League if the other states' unfriendly stand toward her did not change. It would seem that Salem's colleagues realized that they had gone too far, that their intransigence had aroused unanimous fury in the Northern Arab capitals, and that the informal anti-Egyptian front which already existed there to some extent might isolate Cairo altogether. The result was a last-minute retreat.

The main item on the agenda was the League's attitude toward the West, which was discussed largely outside the formal sessions, at separate meetings between the delegation leaders. It is believed that the Arabs decided not to join any Western pact in any form at this time. Egypt once more stressed her fidelity to the Arab Security Pact, and demanded similar pledges from the other states. All the Iraqis were able to squeeze out of the Egyptians was a solemn promise to prepare the ground for an understanding — or even agreement—with the West when the time would be ripe for it.

However, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, an avowed pro-American and ex-Minister to Washington, could not refrain from voicing his dissatisfaction, declaring openly that his country was earnestly contemplating the inclusion of Iran in the Arab Pact in order to complete the Northern defence tier. Whether Iran herself is ready to consider such a proposal is quite another matter, but it is interesting to note how keen Baghdad is to demonstrate some achievements in the way of linking the Arab states to the "roof" tier and to the West at the time the first arms deliveries are being unloaded in Basra. And so Iraq went even further and declared that it would not hesitate to lend its bases to the British in case Iran were attacked. The statement was evidently a reaction to the decisions of the Cairo meetings, at which Iraq had hoped to present the West with practical progress.

Lebanon Backed Iraq

According to some Arab sources Lebanon backed Iraq vigorously, and this was substantiated by the announcement of the Lebanese Foreign Minister that the League's Political Committee had agreed to cooperate with the Western Powers at its last meeting. He went on to say that while the "Palestine Problem", arms supplies, and the unsatisfactory extent of Western economic aid stood in the way of mutual understanding, the Arabs would be ready to discuss regional defence. This statement caused a vehement Syrian reaction, and the Damascus Radio even took the liberty to deny it.

Jordan Adamant

On Jerusalem, no agreement could be reached. Strongly backed by Iraq, Jordan remained adamant in its objections to internationalization. Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria, on the other hand, were not enthusiastic enough about the prospects of internationalization to exert futile pressure on Amman.

It was decided to seek ways of strengthening the Jordan National Guard "against growing aggression", to have Syria to complain to the U.N. in the name of Jordan against the pumping of water by Israel in the Central Jordan Valley; and to strengthen the economic boycott of Israel. Action on Algeria was deferred until the time the next U.N. General Assembly meets.

Outwardly, the divergence of views on all these questions was camouflaged by vague, ambiguous, and even contradictory statements, but in practice it is impossible to see how the differences between Cairo and Baghdad can be bridged. Iraq is determined to join the West, either by signing a separate pact with Turkey or even by joining the Ankara-Karachi axis.

Egypt does not adopt a more compromising attitude, an Arab League explosion is inevitable. Such a development is not excluded from the considerations of Baghdad, which still hopes for union with Syria. Iraq's pro-Western policy and known U.S. support for Northern Arab unity, which Egyptian intransigence could only bolster, might be a unique opportunity to help achieve the late King Faisal's dream.

Friday's Press

Tribute to Veteran Leaders

THE Histadrut Press again publishes special articles and features on the occasion of the Second Aliya jubilee. "Zmanim," (Progressive) dealing editorially with the same subject, stresses the great pioneering work then undertaken by so small a number of people and concludes that it is surely no coincidence that among those in the highest political position in Israel there are so many veterans of the Second Aliya.

"Ha'aretz" (non-party) comments on the Syrian Prime Minister's frank declaration on the use of American arms for an aggressive war against Israel. El-Khoury would have to receive the Nobel Prize for truthfulness among politicians if such an award existed. He is absolutely sure that whatever he says Washington will continue to send arms. Whether this conviction is justified will emerge in the next few days: America has not achieved what it wanted, inasmuch as all Arab countries refuse to enter any defence pact with the West. The paper concludes by asking whether American policy will change before it reaps the whirlwind.

"Al Hamishmar" (Mapam) notes that the Americans no longer even feel themselves bound to do something "to disperse the natural concern felt in Israel"—the pact between American imperialism and the Arab rulers has become a fact, and all illusions are at an end. Mr. M. Begin, writing in "Herut," says that since the Arab rulers have announced that Israel will be attacked, the Government must put an end to its customary fatalism and forestall the attackers before they get their arms.

"Haboker" (General Zionist) comments on the Anglo-Jordan negotiations in London and explains Jordan's dependence on Britain by the lack of willingness of the Arab countries to assist her. Dr. M. Sneh, in another of his "Kol Ha'am" articles against the Zionist Labour movement, expresses the hope that his comrades of yesterday will also be the comrades of tomorrow, though they have betrayed their ideals in every important test in the past.

"Ha'ooma" (independent weekly) surveys the Rosenberg affair in its leading article, and criticizes the political parties for reaching separate and semi-legal agreements with the Treasury, thus gaining privileges which no citizen of this country has or should have.

NOTICE REGARDING PAYMENT OF ANNUAL FEE BY COMPANIES

In accordance with paragraph 243a) of the Companies Ordinance, all companies registered in Israel must pay the annual fee for the year 1955, amounting to IL.30 if payment is made on or before February 28, 1955, and IL.60 if thereafter.

In order to enable companies to pay the lesser sum on schedule, this year, as in previous years, special arrangements have been made whereby it will be possible to remit the annual fee daily between 8 a.m. and 12 noon, until February 28, 1955 inclusive, also at the following places:—

1. Cashier of the Ministry of Justice, Accounts Branch, Russian Compound, Courts Building, Jerusalem.
2. Magistrate Court, 14 Rehov Yehuda Halevi, Tel Aviv.
3. Land Registry, 140 Allenby Road, Tel Aviv.
4. Magistrate Court, Ramle.
5. Magistrate Court, Rehovot.
6. Magistrate Court, Petah Tikva.
7. Magistrate Court, Natanya.
8. Land Registrar, Natanya.
9. Magistrate Court, Hadera.
10. Cashier of Law Courts, Haifa.
11. Land Registrar, 28 Jaffa Road, Haifa.
12. Magistrate Court, Acre.
13. Magistrate Court, Nazareth.
14. Magistrate Court, Tiberias.
15. Land Registrar, Tiberias.
16. Magistrate Court, Safed.
17. Magistrate Court, Beersheba.

On payment at one of the above addresses the payer will receive a special form on which he should fill in the full correct name of the Company, its address, and the File Number assigned to it by the Registrar of Companies.

Payments at the places listed will be accepted in cash only.

Payments sent to the Registrar of Companies directly must reach him by February 28, 1955. Payments arriving after that date, though mailed in time, will be regarded as payments made after February 28, 1955 and the Company will be obliged to remit the additional IL.30.

Companies registering during the year 1955 will be exempt from payment of the annual fee for that year.

Foreign Companies are exempt from annual fee-payments.

A. DANZIGER,
Acting Registrar of Companies.

NOTICE REGARDING PAYMENT OF ANNUAL FEE by PARTNERSHIPS

In accordance with the provisions of the Partnership Regulations (1954) all partnerships registered in Israel must pay the annual fee for 1955, in the amount of IL.15, if payment is made by February 28, 1955, and IL.30 if thereafter.

In order to enable everyone to pay the lesser amount on schedule, special arrangements as in previous years have been made this year, whereby it will be possible to remit the annual fee daily between 8 a.m. and 12 noon, until February 28, 1955 inclusive, at the following places:—

1. Cashier of the Ministry of Justice, Accounts Branch, Russian Compound, Courts Building, Jerusalem.
2. Magistrate Court, 14 Rehov Yehuda Halevi, Tel Aviv.
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4. Magistrate Court, Ramle.
5. Magistrate Court, Rehovot.
6. Magistrate Court, Petah Tikva.
7. Magistrate Court, Natanya.
8. Land Registrar, Natanya.
9. Magistrate Court, Hadera.
10. Cashier of Haifa Law Courts, Haifa.
11. Land Registrar, 28 Jaffa Road, Haifa.
12. Magistrate Court, Acre.
13. Magistrate Court, Nazareth.
14. Magistrate Court, Tiberias.
15. Land Registrar, Tiberias.
16. Magistrate Court, Safed.
17. Magistrate Court, Beersheba.

On payment at one of the above addresses the payer will receive a special form on which he will fill in the full correct name of the partnership, its address and the File number assigned to it by the Registrar of Partnerships.

Payments at the offices listed will be accepted in cash only.

Payments sent directly to the Registrar of Partnerships must reach him not later than February 28, 1955. Payments arriving after that time, even though they were mailed in time, will be regarded as having been made after the deadline and an additional payment of IL.15 must be remitted.

Partnerships registered during 1955 are exempt from payment of the annual fee for that year.

A. DANZIGER
Acting Registrar of Partnerships.

MUSICAL DIARY

ON the occasion of the silver jubilee of the Rotary Club of Jerusalem, Kol Yisrael's latest Tuesday night broadcast presented a programme of contemporary music. The common denominator of the pieces played was the return to academic traditions, putting the layman at ease, and giving him the impression that there is nothing very modern about the moderns.

Ernest Bloch's Concerto Grosso No. 2, performed in Israel for the first time, continues the classicizing of the first Concerto Grosso, with the difference that here the melodic material holds less interest for the professional listener, except some romantic passages interwoven with the more pretentious pseudo-baroque fugatos.

Paul Ben-Haim's "Pastorale variee" for Clarinet and Strings is a sort of Middle Eastern Variations on a theme of solemn lyricism. The inspired opus was ably rendered by the soloist Karel Berent, well accompanied by the orchestra.

Another Israel premiere was Samuel Barber's Violin Concerto in which the composer has considerably more to say in the first movement than in the last. Peggy Hayman, who was the soloist, did an excellent job and showed real virtuoso qualities in this technically by no means easy piece.

The closing number of the evening was Sibelius' "Finlandia." Mr. Freudenthal's inherent authority got the best out of the orchestra.

Y. ZARAI

Christmas Carols

A MIXED four-part choir sang beautiful English carols at the Christmas Service at the Nazareth Baptist Church on Saturday evening, December 19. A speaking choir read passages from Isaiah and from Luke, also in four parts, but in Arabic, and the Christmas story was enacted during the singing and the speaking. The choirs were directed by Mrs. Milton Murphy, who mastered this difficult task with deep devotion and musical ability.

In Haifa

DUE to the illness of the horn player, Yarden Ron (Robison) the Second Subscription Concert of the Haifa Orchestra was put off for a few days; but the artist's first appearance in the city proved well worth waiting for. Young but mature in his work, Mr. Ron has a warm mellow tone, and knows the limitations of his instrument.

The bill included Mozart's Horn Concerto No. 3 (K. 447) and Benjamin Britten's Serenade for Tenor, French Horn, and Orchestra. In the latter work, the tenor solo was sung by Raphael Lavon (Reich). It was no easy start in his musical career, for the changing mood of the parts, written by different English poets, requires a range and a variety of expression that he could not have been expected to master despite his musical gifts. Further, the voice part was meant to have stood out somewhat more clearly.

The other works on the programme were Handel Concerto Grosso No. 12, and the Gluck-Taube Ballet Suite from "Orpheus." For the first violinist, Jacob Malkin, it was an opportunity for excellent reading of short solo parts. The conductor, Mr. Michael Taube, lent a helping hand to the young artists, and the assistant conductor, Moshe Bad-Mor, should again be mentioned as an important man behind the scenes.

G.W.-B.

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